

Historic Fruit and Kitchen Gardens

Newsletter number 10, March 2025



Espalier at Chicago Botanic Garden

Join us in these interesting events to come:

- our online conference on 13 May on the collection of espalier trees at Chicago Botanic Garden and a visit to an exhibition celebrating Vilmorin's heritage vegetables.
- Colloquium on the Europe of landscapes and gardens 24-26 April 2025
- a celebration of centuries of horticulture at The Walled Gardens at Croome Court, Worcestershire, 17 July 2025.
- the Walled Kitchen Gardens Network Forum at Gordon Castle Walled Garden, and gardens of the National Trust for Scotland, 19-20 September 2025.

Did you miss any of our previous online conferences? You can still enjoy them on our website, e.g. the presentation 'Seeds with stories'.

Online conference Tuesday May 13, 17h-19h (4-6pm UK time)

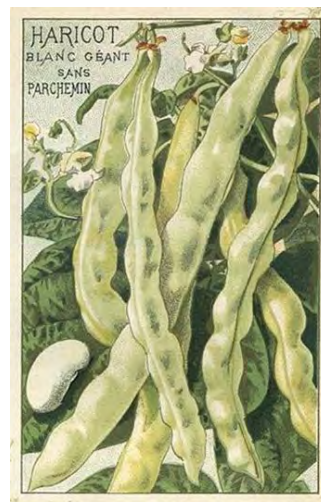
For our next online conference we return to the United States. Adam Dooling, director of plant collections, and Chester Jankowski, senior horticulturalist at Chicago Botanic Garden, will talk about the history of the Chicago Botanic Garden and the beautiful collection of espalier trees it has. Chicago Botanic Garden is one of the world's largest botanic gardens. Mature fruit espaliers trained against brick walls and free-standing trellises as well as a display of nonespalier apple trees can be seen at the Regenstein Fruit & Vegetable Garden. This 4-acre working garden shows visitors how to grow edible plants in a setting designed to surprise and delight. More fruit trees can be found in the Helen and

Richard Thomas English Walled Garden, which was designed by renowned English landscape architect John Brookes.



Espalier trees at Chicago Botanic Garden ©Chicago Botanic Garden

Next we go to France, where Gilles Debarle, VP of Potagers et Fruitières de France, will talk about an exciting exhibition celebrating the centenary of the last edition of Vilmorin-Andrieux's emblematic work, *Les Plantes potagères*. From 6 June to 18 October 2025, the Association des Jardins Potagers et Fruitières de France, under the patronage of the Société Nationale d'Horticulture de France, is inviting the public on a journey through forty of the largest kitchen gardens in France. Each participating garden will be showcasing some of the varieties featured in the last edition of the Vilmorin-Andrieux catalogue and creating spaces where cultivated biodiversity can be passed on and shared.



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To receive the link to the webinar, please write to amisdupotagerduroi@yahoo.fr

The Europe of landscapes and gardens

Friday 25 April, 14h-14.30h (1-1.30pm UK time) Michel Schlosser, Président des Amis du Potager du Roi, will speak on European Kitchen Gardens at an international and multidisciplinary colloquium on European policies that favour landscape and garden heritage. His presentation is part of a two-day exchange between researchers and professionals from the field of garden and landscape. You can

attend the colloquium online. You will find more information on the programme and online registration here: [Symposium - "L'Europe des paysages et des jardins"](#)



A celebration of centuries of horticulture at The Walled Gardens at Croome Court, Worcestershire, 17 July 2025

Join Croome Heritage Trust for an inspiring day celebrating 200 years of horticultural excellence at Croome. This exclusive fund raising event brings together three renowned speakers, garden designer Chris Beardshaw, herb grower Jekka McVicar and expert on fruit and ornamental trees Nicholas Dunn. They will share their passion and expertise in gardening, plants, and design. All profits raised will go to support disadvantaged older children studying horticulture. For more information and tickets, go to [CHT Events - Croome Heritage Trust](#)

In 2021 Chris and Karen Cronin presented the Walled Gardens at Croome Court during one of our online conferences: [Presentation of the restoration of Croome Court](#)



Seeds with stories

Did you miss Erik Jackson's presentation on Old Salem Museums & Gardens in Winston-Salem, North Carolina last January? No worries, you can find it on our website! Director of horticulture Erik Jackson spoke about the history and the restoration of one of the oldest kitchen gardens in the USA. Old Salem Museum and Gardens shares the rich, authentic, and diverse cultural history of the early South of the United States. Historical horticulture is crucial to the legacy of Salem. The museum has a significant collection of heritage plants and seeds.

You will find the presentation on Old Salem Museum and Gardens here: [Eight on-line session – European symposium on the conservation of historic fruit and kitchen gardens Colloque Européen sur la conservation des jardins fruitiers et potagers historiques](#)



© Old Salem Museums & Gardens

Walled Kitchen Gardens Network, Forum - September 19-20, 2025

Gordon Castle Walled Garden

The Walled Kitchen Gardens Network will host its annual Forum in Scotland, at the historic Gordon Castle Walled Garden in Moray, on Saturday 20th September and visiting historic walled gardens of the National Trust for Scotland in Aberdeenshire on Friday 19th September.

We are so pleased to be returning to Scotland to celebrate the 24th year of the Network, at Gordon Castle Walled Garden, one of the oldest and at 8 acres, among the largest walled kitchen gardens in Britain. The 200 year old garden lay unused and empty for many years, until 2013 when our hosts, Zara and Angus Gordon-Lennox, began the restoration to bring this beautiful place back to life and production.

On the 19 September we are visiting 3 restored walled gardens in nearby Aberdeenshire - castles of the National Trust for Scotland, **Castle Fraser, Pitmeddon and Fyvie Castle**.

More information on all the gardens, our speakers and the programme will be available soon.

Booking will open on 30 March 2025 and we look forward to seeing you again in Scotland.

www.walledgardens.net



The Walled Garden at Gordon Castle ©Gordon Castle

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